30

The Bloody Whitſuntide:

OR THE

Tragicall Moneth.

Wherein is repreſented

Divers ſad and lamentable Murders,

the like not heard of for theſe many years.

The firſt, in *Holborn*, and *Covent-Garden*; with the true Account, and full Particulars.

The ſecond, near *Pankridge* Church, on Sunday morning laſt, where a Gentleman was found dead in the fields, his ſword lying by him, and his Doublet off, having about 20. pieces of gold beſides ſilver, in his pockets. With the apprehending of Mr. *Wiſe* the Dueller, and the committing of him to the Preſſe yard at *New-gate*.

The third, a young man, who being jealous of his Wife, prov'd her Executioner. Together with the manner of the ſad and lamentable Accident that befel the Shoe-makers Boy at *Biſhops-Gate*, and the ſplitting of his ſkull, and daſhing his Brains againſt the Walls.

WORCESTER COLLEGE OXFORD LIBRARY

LONDON, Printed for N. *Rogers*, 1663.

LONDON, Printed for N. Rogers, 1663.

The Bloody *Whitſuntide*, &c.

AMongſt the reſt of the Sad and Lamentable Murders and Accidents, which have hapned theſe many years, none ſo direful, or worthy of Pity and Compaſſion, as theſe Tragical lines, preſented to the ſerious view of the Candid Reader; And although they be of a ſcarlet die, yet may the tranſgreſſions of the guilty, prove as white as ſnow; If not here, yet hereafter: For indeed great pity it is, that one Chriſtian ſhould ſo deſtroy another, as to Jeopardize his preſent being, and to become lyable to the Juſtice of the Law, which many times puts a period to his wayes, and cuts the Thred of Life, ſo that he doth not live out half his dayes. A manifeſtation whereof, appears dayly, upon this our *Engliſh* Theatre; yet many there are, who hood-wink themſelves in ſelf-ſecurity, and deſperately run on in the wayes of ſin; as more fully appeareth by theſe enſuing particulars, *viz.*

On *Saturday* morning laſt, betwixt Five and Six of the Clock in the morning, that three Gentlemen, who 'tis ſuppoſed had been up all night a drinking, came to the Houſe of *Mr. Ralph Holland*, at the Sign of the *Crown*, (otherwiſe called the *Che-*

ſhire Houſe) on the back-ſide of *Lincolns Inn-fields*, going from *Turn-ſtyle* in *Holborn*, where the Maid being juſt up, and having open'd the Doors, into the Entry they came, one of them going up Stairs, the other two ſtaying below, which Mr. *Holland* hearing, lying in a cloſe bed in the lower Room, his dear Conſort being with him big with Childe, roſe in his ſhirt, and asked them what they would have, from whence they came, or what their buſineſſe was; but in ſtead of giving a ſatisfactory, Chriſtian, or Rational Anſwer, they retorted high Language, ſwearing exceedingly, one of them drawing upon him, making three or four Paſſes, but he ſtoutly defending of himſelf with his quarter-ſtaff, prevented the danger that might accrue thereupon; his Wife ſhrieking out in a moſt ſad and doleful manner, praying for the Lord's ſake, not to kill her dear Husband; and one amongſt the reſt, having ſome Bowels of Pity and Compaſſion, prevailed with his friend to deſiſt; which at laſt, by the Perſwaſions of two Neighbours, who accidentally were drinking their Mornings Draught at the door, intreated them to depart the houſe, which they no ſooner had done, but eſpying of the Lady, *St. Johns* Coach-man near at hand, made towards him, and one of them ſtruck up his heels; but imediately ariſing and recovering of himſelf, made at them with a fork which he had in his hand, and defended himſelf very ſtoutly, putting by many Paſſes which Mr. *Comes*, an Inns of Court Gentleman made at him; In the mean time Mr. *Holland* having ſlipt on his Breeches and Slippers, came out with his Quarter-ſtaff to his aſſiſtance,

but

but it ſo hapned, that his foot ſlipping, down he fell, having received two Cuts in the Head, and one in his left hand; and before he could recover himſelf, *William Hall* Coachman to the Lady *St. Johns* had received a great Wound, and imediately fell, lying gaſping upon the ground for Breath, and bleeding inwardly.

Which theſe Aſſailants perceiving, betook themſelves to flight; but were imediately purſued by *Thomas Bunce*, Coachman to the Honourable Sir *William Coney*, who overtaking them near to *Chancery Lane* end in *Holborn*, told them, they ſhould anſwer what they had done, and ſtruck at Mr. *Comes*; but he having his Rapier drawn, made three or four Paſſes at him, and at the laſt ran him into the heart, he imediately falling to the ground; which the People perceiving, many wondring what the cauſe of this ſudden Conflict ſhould be, haſted towards them, and laying hold of Mr. *Comes* diſarmed him, ſeizing likewiſe Mr. *Langſton*, a luſty proper Gentleman, and alſo another of their Accomplices; which being done, they'r carried before *Juſtice Foſter*, he engaging for the laſt to be forth-coming, but the other two, Mr. *Langſton* and Mr. *Comes* had their *Mittimus* made, and were by ſome Conſtables, and other Officers guarded to *Newgate*. A ſad and lamenta ble buſineſs, and much lamented by many, as well for the death of honeſt *Tho. Bunce*, for ſo indeed he was reputed by all that knew him, as for the loſſe of the other, and the inevitable danger that theſe Gentlemen have plunged themſelves into.

The Wounds that Mr. *Holland* hath received are hoped

hoped not to be mortal; Mr. *Soper* the Chyrurgion was ſent for; but being abſent from home, another came in his place; and Mr. *Knapper* is likewiſe very ready to be aſſiſting, being an excellent able and knowing Chyrurgion.

But as for Mrs. *Holland*, a Gentlewoman of good repute and eſtimation, being big with child, and exceedingly affrighted at this ſudden and lamentable Accident, lies in a very dangerous and diſtracted condition, there being great fear of her Recovery; but it is hoped the Lord will in mercy be pleaſed to ſpare her; and all poſſible means are uſed for her Recovery.

Thomas Bunce being brought dead out of *Holborn* was firſt carried to the Crown, but afterwards removed to the five Lions in the ſame ſtreet, where the Crowner and Jury about four of the Clock in the Afternoon ſate upon him, and reſolved to bring in their Verdict Thurſday following.

About the ſame time *William Hall*, the Lady St. Johns Coachman lay deſperately wounded, bleeding inwardly, and it was by all expected to be mortal; for many hundreds came from ſeveral places to ſee him; And alſo to behold the other object of Pity.

On Sunday morning laſt another ſad Accident hapned near *Pankridge* Church, where a Gentleman was found killed in the Fields, his Doublet being off, his ſword lying by his ſide, and in his Pockets about 20. pieces of Gold, beſides ſilver; a Gentleman of great Repute, whoſe death is much lamented by many. 'Tis ſuppoſed, this ſad Accident hapned by way of Duel; but the Gentleman who

who fought him is in the Preſs yard.

On Monday a young Maid was killed in *Shoe-Lane*, occaſioned by a Piſtol going off unawares; And on Tueſday a Gentleman took his laſt breath in *Covent-garden*, having received a fatal Wound, by ſtriving for ſuperiority, in taking of the Wall.

But that which very much adds to this Sad and Tragical Diſcourſe, is, the great and lamentable Object of pity in Biſhopſ-gate ſtreet, where a Shoemakers Boy riding of a horſe towards the Gate, the horſe ſtarting, ran with great ſwiftneſſe away with him, and daſhed his brains againſt the edge of the Hall; a ſad ſpectacle, and much to be lamented.

Many ſuch like Caſualties have likewiſe happned in ſeveral places; as at *Cow-croſs*, where a man, to ſame a woman from the Cart, as ſhe was paſſing along in the Street, received the hurt himſelf, and was almoſt bruiſed to pieces.

Another drowned near St. *Katherines*. And a young Man being jealous of his Wife, became her Executioner.

FINIS.